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AGO D/A ltr, 8 Mar 1976; AGO D/A ltr, 8 Mar 1976	

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

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AD 510199

DATE: (9 Jul 70)

FOR OT-UT-702021/

14 July 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 2d Battalion, 12th Artillery (U). Ending 30 April 1970

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Information contained in this report is provided to insure appropriate benefits in the future from lessons learned during current operations and may be adapted for use in developing training material.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

Robert E. Lynch
ROBERT E. LYNCH
Colonel, AGC
Acting The Adjutant General

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2d Battalion, 12th Artillery.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 2d BATTALION, 12th ARTILLERY
APO San Francisco 96289

AVGE-R

5 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned Headquarters, 2d Battalion,
12th Artillery, (UIC: WBHRAA), Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS
CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. (C) Operations: Significant Activities

a. Personnel. During the reporting period the following significant activities occurred in this battalion:

(1) Battery F, 16th Artillery was inactivated on 1 April 1970. Fifty-one (51) Battery F, 16th Artillery enlisted personnel were infused into the 2d Battalion, 12th Artillery.

(2) This battalion received seventy-five (75) enlisted, three (3) officers and one (1) warrant officer replacement during the reporting period.

(3) Two (2) personnel reenlisted during the last 90 days.

(4) The battalion and Battery F, 16th Artillery used 121 R&R Allocations to the following locations.

	<u>2/12</u>	<u>F/16</u>
(a) Hawaii	25	4
(b) Hong Kong	8	0
(c) Tokyo	6	0
(d) Taipei	9	0
(e) Bangkok	20	8
(f) Australia	34	7

FOR OT UT
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AVGE-R

5 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report - 1st Airborne Division, 2d Battalion,
12th Artillery, (UIC: WBHRAA), Period Ending 30 April 1970, RGS CSFOR - 65
(102) (U)

(5) Six (6) personnel took emergency or ordinary leave for compassionate reasons.

(6) Casualties during the reporting period were as follows:

	<u>2/12</u>	<u>F/16</u>
(a) KIA	4	0
(b) WIA	15	0
(c) Died not as result of hostile action	2	0
(d) Nonbattle casualties	12	2

(7) Awards during the reporting period are as follows:

	<u>2/12</u> Sub/Approved	<u>F/16</u> Sub/Approved
(a) BS-Valor	23/21	0/0
(b) BS-Ach	12/3	9/0
(c) BS-Svc	20/10	2/2
(d) ACM-Ach	0/0	13/12
(e) ACM-Svc	46/24	16/17
(f) ACM-Valor	24/19	0/4
(g) Cert of Ach	-	77/77

(8) Disciplinary Actions

	<u>2/12</u>	<u>F/16</u>
(a) Art 15	40	7
(b) Special Court	2	1
(c) Confinements	1	0

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SUBJECT: Operational Report - Losses Learned Headquarters, 2d Battalion,
12th Artillery, (UIC: WBHRAA), Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR - 65
(R2) (U)

5 May 1970

- (9) The battalion had eleven (11) approved six (6) month extensions of FST.
- (10) The battalion promoted 163 personnel during the reporting period.

	<u>2/12</u>	<u>F/16</u>
(a) E-7	2	-
(b) E-6	4	-
(c) E-5	35	1
(d) E-4	111	10

(11) Personnel Shortages

MOS	AUTH	ASG	TITLE
05B20	2	0	Radio Operator
71T20	5	0	Equipment Report Clerk
13A10	238	217	Cannoncer
63A10	3	0	Mechanic Helper
94A10	5	2	Cooks Helper
13E40	10	5	Recon Sergeant

b. Operations

(1) The battalion engaged in operations during the reporting period supporting 1st Cavalry Division (AM), 1st Infantry Division, 5th ARVN Division, 199th Light Infantry Brigade.

(2) Disposition of the battalion elements at the beginning of the reporting period was follows:

- (a) Headquarters and Headquarters Battery - Phu Loi (XT 848150)
- (b) Meteorological section of Headquarters Battery - Phuoc Vinh (XT 054491)
- (c) Service Battery - Phu Loi
- (d) Battery A - FSB Buttons (XU 143073)

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SUBJECT: Operational Report - 1st Battalion, 2d Battalion,
12th Artillery, (UIC: WMRMA), Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR - 65
(R2) (U)

(e) Battery B:

(1) Three Howitzers - Phuoc Vinh (XT971465)

(2) Three Howitzers - FSB Jamie (XT484718)

(f) Battery C - Quan Loi (XT823913)

(g) Battery F/16th Artillery - FSB Thunder II (XT781566)

(3) The following is a detailed account of activities during the reporting period:

(a) Battery A 2d Battalion 12th Artillery: On 31 March 1970 three (3) howitzers moved by rotary wing aircraft from FSB Buttons to FSB Judie (YU253145) with a mission of GSR 1st Cavalry Division Artillery. On 1 April 1970 three (3) howitzers moved by rotary wing aircraft from FSB Buttons to FSB Judie (YU253145) with a mission of GSR 1st Cavalry Division Artillery. On 21 April 1970 moved by rotary wing aircraft from FSB Judie to FSB Granite (YU926080) with a mission of GS II FFVA priority of fires to 2d ARVN ABN. On 26 April 1970 moved by rotary wing aircraft from FSB Granite to FSB Yong Ha (XU844138) with a mission of GS II FFVA supporting fires provided to 3d ARVN ABN.

(b) Battery B 2d Battalion 12th Artillery: On 2 February 1970 three (3) howitzers moved by rotary wing aircraft from Phuoc Vinh to FSB Jamie (XT484718) with a mission of GSR 1st Cavalry Division Artillery. On 10 March 1970 moved by rotary wing aircraft from FSB Jamie to FSB Joe (XT626662) with a mission of GSR 1st Cavalry Division Artillery. On 19 March 1970 moved by rotary wing aircraft from FSB Joe to FSB Jay (XT038750) with a mission of GSR 1st Cavalry Division Artillery. While at FSB Jay the battery came under heavy enemy rocket, mortar and small arms attack, with the battery suffering 14 casualties (4 KIA, 10 WIA). On 29 March 1970 moved by rotary wing aircraft from FSB Jay to FSB Hannah (XT032719) with a mission of GSR 1st Cavalry Division Artillery. On 3 April 1970 moved by rotary wing aircraft to Thien Ngon then by fixed wing to Quan Loi Base Camp (XT822913) with a mission GS II FFA. On 30 April 1970 four (4) howitzers moved by fixed wing aircraft from Quan Loi Base Camp to Katum and then by rotary wing aircraft to West 1 (XT376950) with a mission of GSR 1st Cavalry Division Artillery.

(c) Battery C 2d Battalion 12th Artillery: On 4 April 1970 moved by road from Quan Loi Base Camp to FSB Phi Ma (XT763113) with a mission of GS II FFVA. On 30 April 1970 moved by road from FSB Phi Ma to FSB Burkett (XT550844) with mission of GSR 1st Cavalry Division Artillery. While enroute to FSB Burkett one (1) howitzer was damaged by a mine and had to be turned in.

(d) Battery F 16th Artillery: On 13 February 1970 moved from FSB Thunder II by road to Phuoc Vinh and then by rotary wing aircraft to FSB Melinda (XT167366)

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AVGF-R

5 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned Leaders, 2d Battalion, 12th Artillery, (UIC: UDHRAA), Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR - 65 (R2) (U)

with a mission of GS II FFVA priority of fires to 199th Light Infantry Brigade. On 21 February 1970 moved three (3) howitzers by rotary wing aircraft from FSB Molinda to FSB Thunder II (XT781556) with a mission of GSR 1st Infantry Division Artillery, supporting fires provided 5th ARVN Division. On 22 February 1970 moved three (3) howitzers by rotary wing aircraft from FSB Molinda to FSB Thunder II (XT781556) with a mission of GSR 1st Infantry Division Artillery supporting fires provided 5th ARVN Division. The remaining elements of the battery were moved by rotary wing aircraft to Phuoc Vinh and then to Thunder II by road. On 20 March 1970 moved from FSB Thunder II to Phu Loi Base Camp (XT849150) by road with a mission of GS II FFVA.

The following number of missions were fired during the reporting period:

<u>BATTERY</u>	<u>MISSIONS</u>	<u>ROUNDS</u>
A	3466	14,226
B	2362	15,464
C	2649	10,305
F/16	465	3,993
Total	8942	43,988

c. Training

- (1) Training was conducted every day of the 89 days in the reporting period.
- (2) All sections within the batteries conducted training commensurate with their mission.
- (3) The battalion maintenance section conducted a "Drivers Training School" for the battalion. The school consisted of six (6) hours of formal instruction plus two (2) hours for road testing and written examination. A total of 38 personnel attended the school.
- (4) The battalion conducted a three (3) day "Chiefs of Section School". The school consisted of fourteen (14) hours of formal instruction and practical exercise dealing with the basic weapon, to include maintenance and movement by air, motor maintenance and other related subjects. A total of twelve (12) students attended the school.
- (5) The battalion conducted a two (2) day "Maintenance School" for motor sergeants and mechanics. The school consisted of eight (8) hours of formal instruction. A total of fifteen (15) personnel attended the school.

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5 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned Headquarters, 2d Battalion,
12th Artillery, (UIC: WBHRLA), Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR - 65
(R2) (U)

(6) Mandatory training conducted during the period was as follows:

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>HOURS OF TRAINING</u>
Command Information	78
Character Guidance	17
Counter Sapper Tng	6
CBR Refresher	6
Code of Conduct	6
Survival Escape and Evasion	6
Safety Tng (Fire Prevention and Fighting)	6
Weapon Familiarization	20

d. Intelligence

(1) 4 Top Secret, 93 Secret, 11 Confidential, and 132 Local File Checks were processed during the reporting period. The following number of clearances were validated: 4 top secret, 87 secret, 11 confidential, and 132 local file checks.

(2) Monthly security evaluations were conducted and deficiencies noted were corrected.

(3) Weekly bunker inspections were conducted and units were notified of deficiencies and corrective action was taken.

(4) The S2 attended monthly intelligence conferences at II FFV Arty HQ.

e. Logistics

(1) With the new concept of area maintenance by 29th General Support Group maintenance of vehicles has improved. Although the area maintenance program has worked for the vehicles, the howitzer maintenance has not improved, primarily due to the shortage of parts. These items have been placed on Red Ball Requisition and are included in the critical items list submitted 28 March and 13 April to 23d Artillery Group.

(2) Due to the difficulty in obtaining 60" and 72" culvert in depot, which requisitions of 02 priority were submitted, 02/9349-108 was submitted for 120

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5 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report Lessons Learned Headquarters, 2d Battalion,
12th Artillery, (UIC: WBHRAA), Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR - 65
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pieces of 72" culvert and 02/0036-108 requisition was submitted for 200 pieces of 60" culvert, a new type of bunker has been devised by this battalion to be used instead of culvert. This bunker consists of 6 X 6 upright supports and PSP laid over the supports. This reduces the material required to provide storage space. This bunker is now being constructed by all units of this battalion.

f. Organization: None

g. Others

(1) Communications:

a) Establishment of all necessary communications for our units and its tactical employment have been accomplished. With the movement of our firing batteries to Song Be, Quan Lai, and Phi Ma, it became necessary to establish an automatic retransmission station on Nui Ba Ra. This station is operating successfully, tying the battalion together.

b) To operate our retransmission station, personnel have been trained in radio procedure, operation of the retransmission unit, and generator maintenance. They are being employed on a rotational basis.

(2) Civic Action

a) In accordance with the directives of higher headquarters, our civilian affairs program has been curtailed. Programs not involving the GVN have been avoided.

b) Our S-5 personnel continue to play a key role in monitoring the payment of Vietnamese working for our batteries. The S-5 provides assistance in keeping the administration of sub funds according to the regulations, and the employment of Vietnamese nationals on a basis conducive to good will among the Vietnamese and the American people. The battalion surgeon participates actively 3 days each week in the MEDCAP program at Gasden village.

2. (C) Lessons Learned: Commanders Observation, Evaluation, and Recommendations.

a. Personnel - None

b. Intelligence - None

c. Operations:

(1) Observation: While occupying FSB Jay, B Battery was attacked by rockets and mortars which was followed by a ground attack. This proved that

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5 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report. Lessons Learned Headquarters, 2d Battalion,
12th Artillery, (UIC: WBHRAA), Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR - 65
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certain precautions taken were of the utmost importance in the outcome of the attack.

(2) Evaluation: It was found that:

a) The cross training program which was conducted on a regular basis proved beneficial. When one gun crew was hit, it sustained 4 KIA's. Individuals from the communications section assumed duties at the gun, which provided defensive fires during the attack.

b) A fire broke out in one of the pits. The fire fighting equipment was close at hand. Personnel manned the equipment and the fire was quickly extinguished.

c) One gun was always detailed to provide self-illumination. During the attack this eliminated much confusion.

d) One howitzer was hit by an RPG round. It was felt that if RPG screen had been used, much less damage would have been sustained by the gun.

e) It was noted at FSB Jay that having the tree line within 50 -100 meters of the berm made the FSB extremely vulnerable to a ground attack.

(3) Recommendations:

a) A cross training program is a necessity.

b) Fire fighting equipment must be available.

c) A gun should be detailed to fire self-illumination.

d) RPG screen should be placed around each howitzer section.

e) The jungle should be cleared at least 200 meters from the berm.

d. Organization: None

e. Training: None

f. Logistics:

(1) Observation: A method is needed to assist in removing supplies from the resupply pad to the Fire Support Base.

(2) Evaluation: Due to the weight of 155mm ammunition, and the time involved in removing it from the resupply pad to the gun pits by hand, this battalion

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SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned, HQ, 2d Battalion, 12th Artillery,
(UIC: WBHRAA), Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

devised an "A" frame, which is installed on the front of a 2½-ton truck with winch. By this method, the pallets of powder and projectiles can be lifted into the bed of a truck and off-loaded into the pits with minimum effort. This stops the need to break the pallets on the pad and load each projectile by hand. This method increases the efficiency of the operation. This "A" frame can also be used in removing class IV and V from the fire support base to the pad when the unit is required to move to another location.

(3) Recommendations: Each battery should have an "A" frame in the field to expedite the handling of heavy and cumbersome materials. It has been proven to save man-hours, which can be used for other tasks which must be accomplished on every Fire Support Base. This "A" frame is constructed with two 15' x 2½" pieces of pipe, one 37' x 3/4" piece of cable, and a pulley which is used in conjunction with the winch of the truck.

g. Communications:

(1) Observation: In establishing the Nui Ba Ra retransmission station it was learned that interference of pairs of retransmission frequencies is not limited to harmonics.

(2) Evaluation: Finding a compatible pair of frequencies involved more than consulting interference charts. This is due to the operation of many such retrans units at the same location raising the possibility of multiple freq-pair interference.

(3) Recommendation: When involved in a similar situation retransmission units and RC/292's should be separated as much as possible. Coordination must be made with other units using retransmission sets at the same location to insure that all frequencies are compatible. While setting up such a unit all work should be supervised by a competent communications technician, also a generator mechanic. Both should remain on location until operation is running smoothly.

h. Materiel: None

i. Other: None

1 Incl
as

Alvin F. Murphy
ALVIN F. MURPHY
LTC, FA
Commanding

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AVGE (16 May 70) 1st Ind

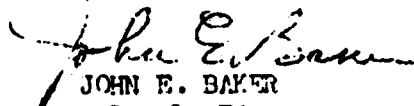
SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 2d Battalion, 12th Artillery,
Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS-CSF D-65 (R2) (U)

DA, Headquarters, 23d Artillery Group, APO 96280 16 May 1970

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the Army,
Washington, D.C. 20310

Commanding Officer, II Field Force Vietnam Artillery, ATTN: AVFB-FAC,
APO 96266

This Headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report for the period ending
30 April 1970 from Headquarters, 2d Battalion, 12th Artillery.


JOHN E. BAKER
Colonel, FA
Commanding

AVFC-PAC (16 May 70) 2d Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 2d Battalion, 12th Artillery
for Period Ending 30 April 1970. LOS CSFCA-65 (R2) (U)

DA, HEADQUARTERS, II FIELD FORCE VIETNAM ARTILLERY, APO 96266

2 JUN 1970

TO: Commanding General, II Field Force Vietnam, ATTN: AVFC-RE, APO 96266

This headquarters has reviewed the quarterly report of the 2d Battalion, 12th Artillery and concurs in operations and lessons learned as reported.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



R.G. FARRISH
LTC, FA
Adjutant

AVC C-RL (10 May 70) 3d Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 2d Battalion, 12th Artillery
For Period Ending 30 April 1970, RGS C-204-65 (AR) (U)

TO: II FFORCEV, APO San Francisco 96266

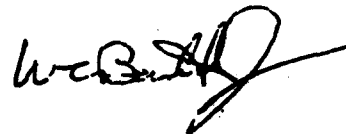
THRU: Commanding General, US Army Vietnam, AFM: A-RGC(AR), APO 96375

Commander-In-Chief, US Army Pacific, AFM: A-OP-1, APO 96378

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the
Army, Washington, D.C. 20310

This Headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report - Lessons Learned
for the quarterly period ending 30 April 1970 from Headquarters, 2d
Battalion, 12th Artillery and concurs with the comments of the insourcing
headquarters.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



CC:
CO, II FFORCEV Arty
CO, 2d Bn, 12th Arty

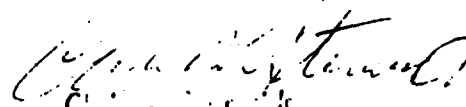
AVHGC-DST (5 May 70) 4th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned Headquarters, 2d Battalion,
12th Artillery, (UIC: WBHRAA), Period Ending 30 April 1970,
RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY, VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375 2 JUN 1970

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT,
APO 96558

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 30 April 1970 from Headquarters 2d Battalion, 12th Artillery, and concurs with the comments of indorsing headquarters.
2. Reference item concerning "Communications," page 9, para 2g(3); concur. All units operating radio equipment at Nui Ba Ra must coordinate frequency usage with the II FFV Signal Office. II FFV is responsible for FM frequency management in III and IV Corps. Unit has been so advised.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



Assistant Adjutant General

CF:
HQ, 2d Bn, 12th ARTY
HQ, IIFV

GPOP-DT (5 May 70) 5th Ind (U)

SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 2d Battalion, 12th Artillery for
Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 1 JUL 70

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the
Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

This headquarters concurs in subject report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:



D.D. CLINE
2LT, AGC
Asst AG

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AVGE-R

5 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned, HQ, 2d Battalion, 12th Artillery,
(UIC: WBHRAA), Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

Sub Units:

1. Organic Units:

Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2d Battalion, 12th Artillery
Battery A, 2d Battalion, 12th Artillery
Battery B, 2d Battalion, 12th Artillery
Battery C, 2d Battalion, 12th Artillery
Service Battery, 2d Battalion, 12th Artillery

2. Attached Unit:

Battery F, 16th Artillery

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Security Classification

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3. DESCRIPTIVE NOTES (Type of report and inclusive dates) Experiences of unit engaged in counterinsurgency operations, 1 Feb 70 to 30 Apr 70.			
4. AUTHOR(S) (First name, middle initial, last name) CO. 2d Battalion, 12th Artillery			
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13. ABSTRACT			

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